

suspicion that have led to voting blocs in the United Nations, that have led to, in some measure at least, such repugnant resolutions as the association of Zionism and racism.

All of these things are a reflection, at least in part, of that ferment that is going on in the underdeveloped world. And so the North-South dialogue is reflected now in the Conference on International Economic Co-operation in Paris, of which my colleague and predecessor, Allan MacEachen, is Co-chairman. That forum must make progress, because, unless it does, unless the developed countries are prepared to demonstrate clearly what they are prepared and willing to do by way of commodity agreements, whatever form they take, by way of debt-forgiveness or easing for some of the poorest countries, and in a whole range of other areas, then, of course, the leverage of essential commodities such as oil, and the OPEC group, will unquestionably be used against the developed countries in ways I shudder to contemplate in terms of the potential they may have eventually for ripping the world literally apart.

And so, in the Security Council once more, Canada is going to have to be wise and judicious and generous, not only in terms of our own people and what they are prepared to do but in terms of the leadership that we can give to the developed world. All in all, then, it is going to be a busy year, and that is quite a challenge when one takes into account two other factors I want to touch on very briefly.

First, having to deal with a new administration in the United States. I have no great qualms, incidentally, about that prospect, because Canada/United States relations have gone on for so long and are based, by and large, on such a firm foundation of understanding and mutual awareness of each other that a change of administration is not going to significantly alter that relationship. But, nevertheless, it is going to be important that we deal with them in as frank and forthright and rapid a manner as we possibly can to avoid their festering into something far more serious.

And finally, of course, not only must those challenges at the United Nations be coupled with our relations with the United States and how we are going to share this continent but we also have to decide what we are going to do with our own country.

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